

---

---

## News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
April 17, 2007

Contact: Anne Atkins  
(804) 371-0441

### *Administrator hired for new veterans care center*

RICHMOND—The Virginia Department of Veterans Services (DVS) has hired Sandra Ranicki as administrator for the Sitter-Barfoot Veterans Care Center, which is being built on the campus of the McGuire VA Medical Center in Richmond. Ranicki comes to DVS from Stratford Hall Rehabilitation Center, located in Richmond, where she served as administrator for the 246-bed, multifunctional facility.

The Sitter-Barfoot Veterans Care Center will be the second veterans care center operated by the Virginia Department of Veterans Services and is scheduled to open late this summer. The 160-bed facility will offer skilled nursing care and an Alzheimer's/dementia unit.

As administrator, Ranicki will oversee the daily operation of the facility. Ranicki said she was attracted to the administrator position at the new veterans care center because of her life-long affiliation with the military. "My father was career Navy and my son recently returned to Iraq for a second tour. The administrator position at Sitter-Barfoot gives me the opportunity to work with this very special clientele," Ranicki explained.

Prior to her position at the Stratford Hall Rehabilitation Center, Ranicki was administrator for Imperial health Care operated by HCR-Manorcare, and Executive Director for Elizabeth Adam Crump Manor operated by Beverly Healthcare. Throughout her career, Ranicki has held progressively more complex and challenging positions in the health care field, including Director of Operations at Beverly Healthcare where she managed the operation of 10 facilities.

Ranicki is an active member of the Virginia Health Care Association and has served as a district officer and as a member of the Board of Directors. She also serves on the Board of Directors of the Central Virginia Health Planning Agency.

Ranicki was born in San Juan, Puerto Rico and holds a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of Texas.

In addition to her professional expertise, Ranicki brings a unique perspective to the position at Sitter-Barfoot. As the daughter and mother of military service members, Ranicki can identify with and understands the experiences and point of view of family members. “In a health care setting, and particularly a long-term care setting, working with the family is just as important for the patient’s well being as working with the patient,” said Ranicki.

Ranicki began her new role at the Sitter-Barfoot Veterans Care Center on April 16.

# # #

### **About the Virginia Department of Veterans Services**

The Virginia Department of Veterans Services operates 20 benefit services offices where representatives assist veterans and their family members in filing claims for VA benefits. The agency operates two cemeteries for veterans: the Virginia Veterans Cemetery in Amelia and the Albert G. Horton, Jr. Memorial Veterans Cemetery in Suffolk. A third state veterans cemetery in Dublin, Virginia is in the initial stages of development. DVS operates the Virginia Veterans Care Center (VVCC) in Roanoke. The VVCC is a long-term care facility offering nursing and domiciliary care for veterans. The Sitter-Barfoot Veterans Care Center is under construction in Richmond and is slated to open in 2007. The agency also certifies that post-secondary educational institutions meet G.I. Bill funding and eligibility requirements, enabling veterans and family members to pursue educational opportunities.